

Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

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September 16, 2014

Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell
Chief Executive Officer
Prince George's County Public Schools
14201 School Lane
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

Dear Dr. Maxwell:

The United States Department of Education (USDE) recently granted Maryland's request for a waiver of section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) (Tydings Amendment) to extend the period of availability of Maryland's FY 2012 School Improvement Grant (SIG II) allocation until September 30, 2015.

The Maryland State Department of Education must continue to implement the following:

- Approve Local Education Agency's (LEA's) request to implement the extended waiver only if the LEA has effectively used FY 2012 funds to carry out the SIG final requirements and improve student achievement, in accordance with section 9401(d)(2)(A) of the Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA).
- Develop criteria that will enable it to determine whether an LEA can continue to fully and effectively implement one of the models in its Tier I and II Cohort 2 schools for an additional year.
- Apply the criteria it develops to ensure that the LEA will use the funds to fully and effectively implement a SIG intervention model in one or more Tier I and Tier II Cohort 2 SIG schools for one additional school year, including by reviewing and approving revised LEA budgets and plans for continuing full and effective implementation of the model during the 2014-2015 school year.
- Develop a technical assistance and support plan that outline how it will continue to support LEAs implementation of the intervention models for the selected Tier I and Tier II Cohort 2 schools that are approved to implement the extended waiver.
- Develop a monitoring plan for 2014-2015 school year, specifically for the LEAs that are approved to implement the extended waiver.
- Post on its public website and submit to the USDE the names of the LEAs it has approved to implement the extended waiver, the schools within those LEAs that will benefit from the extension of the period of availability of the funds, and, for each LEA and school, the amount of the funds that will be extended within 30 dates of the State Education Agency's approval of the LEA's request to implement the extended waiver.

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Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) submitted a letter to MSDE dated August 21, 2014 requesting the Tydings waiver to extend the use of its FY 2012 School Improvement Grant (SIG) allocation until September 30, 2015 for the following SIG II priority schools:

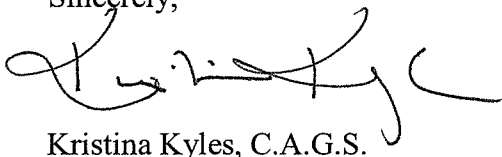
- Oxon Hill Middle School
- Thomas Johnson Middle School

MSDE approves this waiver request. Our records indicate that the Prince George's Public County Schools has a balance of \$102,258.30 from FY 2012 SIG funds as of September 12, 2014. (Grant #1348031)

Please keep in mind that programmatic changes, budget realignments, and grant extensions, require prior written approval by MSDE in conformance with assurances attached to the application. Budget amendments must be submitted at least 45 days prior to the end of the grant period. Sub-grantees shall implement all required action(s) within timelines, including the submission to MSDE of any action(s) resulting from monitoring and evaluation activities and/or complaint investigations. Each sub-grantee shall adhere to MSDE financial and program reporting requirements. Final financial reports must be submitted to MSDE on or before November 30, 2015.

If you have questions, please contact Ms. Maria E. Lamb, Director, Program Improvement and Family Support Branch, at (410) 767-0286 or email maria.lamb@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Kristina Kyles, C.A.G.S.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Student, Family, and School Support

KK/MEL

c: Kevin Maxwell
Monique Davis
Debra Mahone
Myra Grzskiewicz
Jim Clark
Maria E. Lamb
Tina McKnight
Kelly Coates
Gail Clark Dickson
Nola Cromer